

California OES Weather Threat Briefing

Monday, January 18, 2021
9:00 AM PST

Day 1 (Monday): A significant wind event will be bearing down on the state starting today, with damaging winds developing tonight

National Weather Service
Western Region Headquarters
Regional Operations Center
Salt Lake City,
UT



WEATHER KEY POINTS

01/18/21 - 01/24/21

Monday-Thursday

- A significant wind event will be bearing down on the state starting today, with winds already picking up across the Sacramento valley and across the northern Sierra
- Winds will increase southward throughout the day really picking up by late tonight across much of the state
- The strongest winds are expected late Monday (tonight) through Tuesday morning as a strong cold front deepens the strong pressure gradient across the state
 - **Damaging winds with gusts of 70-80 mph or higher will develop across the Bay Area hills/mountains and northern Sierra Monday evening, and across the Central Sierra Monday night into Tuesday**
 - **Along the high Sierra, this wind event looks similar to previous events that caused widespread tree damage in the Tahoe area, with winds well in excess of 100 mph expected and possibly even in excess of 150 mph along the Sierra Crest**
 - Relative humidity will be low enough combined with the lack of recent rain to cause critical fire weather conditions
- A moderate to strong Santa Ana wind event will develop across southern California late Monday through Wednesday morning, potentially causing wind damage and critical fire weather conditions for a significant portion of southwestern California
 - **The strongest winds are anticipated to be late Monday night and Tuesday across Los Angeles and Ventura counties with damaging wind gusts 60 to 80 mph or possibly even higher (90+ mph) in some areas**
 - Relative humidity will be low enough combined with the lack of recent rain to cause critical fire weather conditions
- Winds will gradually diminish for northern California on Tuesday afternoon and for southern California early Wednesday
- Cooler conditions with light precipitation increasingly likely across southern California Tuesday onward, initially from San Diego to the Mojave Desert Tuesday, then more extensive into the Los Angeles metro area on Thursday

Friday-Sunday

- The chance of light rain continues across southern California through the weekend
- A weather system may move into the state on Friday and Saturday, potentially bringing some light snow to the Sierra
 - Confidence is low on the extent of precipitation, however the system does not look particularly impactful at this time



CALIFORNIA WEATHER IMPACTS

01/18/21 - 01/24/21

<u>Hazards / Day</u>	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
Non-Thunderstorm Damaging Winds	All	All	Southern				
Snow					Inland	Inland	Inland
Coastal Flooding							
River Flooding							
Thunderstorms (Wind / Hail / Tornadoes)							
Fire Weather (Low Humidity / Wind / Dry Thunderstorms)	Southern/ Inland	Southern/ Inland	Southern				
Heat Risk							
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding / Debris Flow							
Cold							



No Impacts



Minimal Impacts



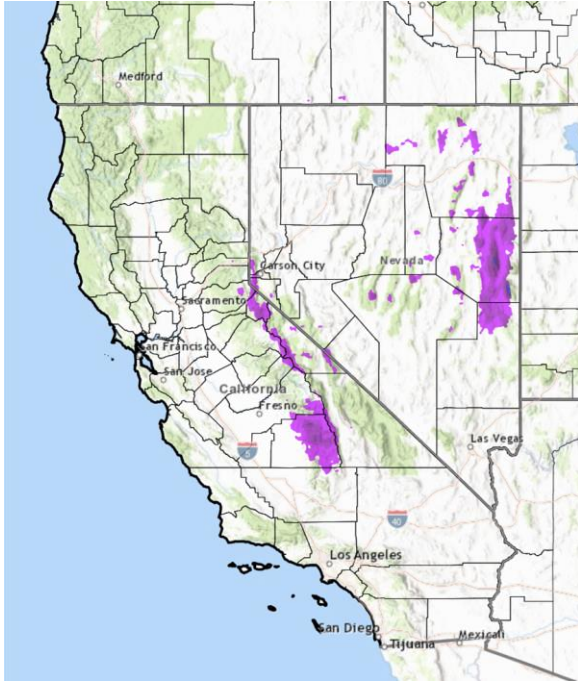
Moderate Impacts



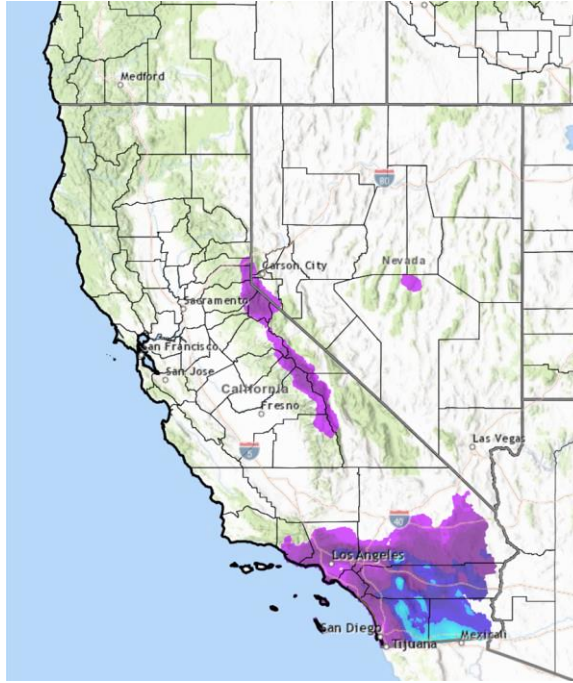
Severe Impacts

PRECIPITATION FORECAST

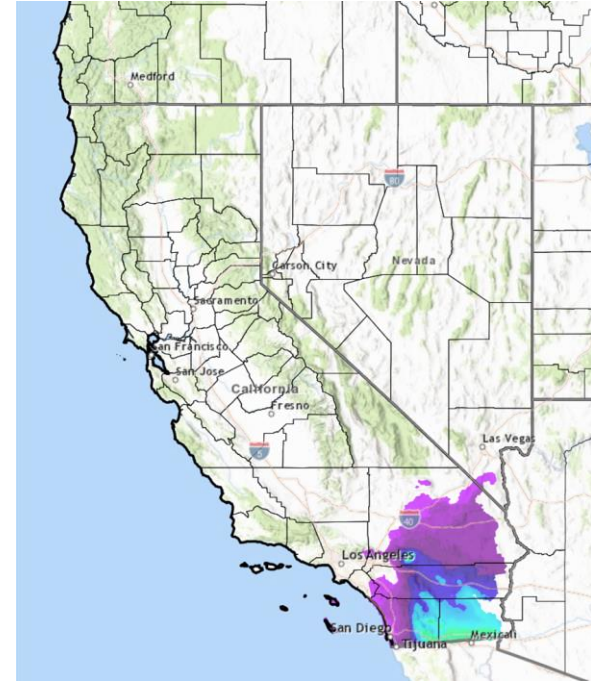
01/18/21 - 01/20/21



Monday



Tuesday



Wednesday

Precipitation (inches)



WEATHER OUTLOOK

01/23/21 - 01/31/21

6-10 Day Outlook (January 23 – January 27)

Temperatures

- Below normal temperatures strongly favored statewide

Precipitation

- Above normal precipitation favored for northern and central California; above normal precipitation strongly favored for southern California

8-14 Day Outlook (January 25 – January 31)

Temperatures

- Below normal temperatures favored statewide

Precipitation

- Above normal precipitation favored for Coastal and Southern Regions; above normal precipitation strongly favored across Inland Region



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